Grant of subsidy to cardamon growers for the purchase of sprinklers

*153. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cardamom growers in Tamil Nadu are not putting sprinklers due to non-availability of subsidy to them;

(b) whether Government propose to grant sufficient subsidy to the needy cardamom growers to put sprinklers in order to increase the production of cardamom; and

(c) if so, what action Government have so far taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) The Spices Board has reported that this is not a fact.

(b) and (c) The Spice Board already has a scheme to grant subsidy for construction of check-dams, wells and for putting up sprinklers for cardamom plantations at a total expenditure of Rs. 18 lakhs during the current financial year 1989-90.

Jobs created by Pepsi Project

*155. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the statement made by the thenMinister of Food Processing Industries on the 3rd November, 1988 in the Rajya Sabha substantial additional employment capacity in rural areas would be created by the Pepsi project;

(b) if so, what is the number of jobs which have been created by the Pepsi Project so far;

(c) what is the number of jobs created in Punjab; and

(d) by when the rest of the jobs are likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited more than 100 people to date have been directly employed by them of which more than 60 are located in Punjab. The company also indicated that more than 1500 persons have been employed in Punjab in putting up the manufacturing facilities. In addition, according to the company, a large number of jobs have been created in the farming of tomatoes and potatoes which are being cultivated under contract with the company.

Creation of more jobs will depend upon the progress of the project.

Development of Tourism in Southern States

*156. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the development of a 'tourist circuit' for Southern States on the lines of the 'Golden triangle' of Jaipur, Agra and Delhi, to attract large number of foreign tourists;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to develop Vishakhapatnam both as hill and beach resorts and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following extention circuits have been identified alongwith the established circuits in the Southern States to attract larger number of foreign tourists:-